

What is claimed is:

5 1. A compound 8 to 50 nucleobases in length targeted to a nucleic acid molecule encoding phospholipid scramblase 3, wherein said compound specifically hybridizes with said nucleic acid molecule encoding phospholipid scramblase 3 and inhibits the expression of phospholipid scramblase 3.

10 2. The compound of claim 1 which is an antisense oligonucleotide.

3. The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide has a sequence comprising SEQ ID NO: 20, 21, 28, 29, 39, 41, 42, 47, 51, 56, 58, 59, 63, 77, 78, or 79.

15 4. The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified internucleoside linkage.

5. The compound of claim 4 wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

20 6. The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified sugar moiety.

7. The compound of claim 6 wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2'-O-methoxyethyl sugar moiety.

25 8. The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified nucleobase.

9. The compound of claim 8 wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.

10. The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is a chimeric oligonucleotide.

30 11. A compound 8 to 50 nucleobases in length which specifically hybridizes with at least an 8-nucleobase portion of an active site on a nucleic acid molecule encoding phospholipid scramblase 3.

35 12. A composition comprising the compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

13. The composition of claim 12 further comprising a colloidal dispersion system.

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14. The composition of claim 12 wherein the compound is an antisense oligonucleotide.

15. A method of inhibiting the expression of phospholipid scramblase 3 in cells or tissues comprising contacting said cells or tissues with the compound of claim 1 so that expression of phospholipid scramblase 3 is inhibited.

16. A method of treating an animal having a disease or condition associated with phospholipid scramblase 3 comprising administering to said animal a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of the compound of claim 1 so that expression of phospholipid scramblase 3 is inhibited.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein the disease or condition is a hyperproliferative disorder.

18. The method of claim 16 wherein the disease or condition is an autoimmune disorder.

19. The compound of claim 1 targeted to a nucleic acid molecule encoding phospholipid scramblase 3, wherein said compound specifically hybridizes with and differentially inhibits the expression of one of the variants of phospholipid scramblase 3 relative to the remaining variants of phospholipid scramblase 3.

20. The compound of claim 19 targeted to a nucleic acid molecule encoding phospholipid scramblase 3, wherein said compound hybridizes with and specifically inhibits the expression of a variant of phospholipid scramblase 3, wherein said variant is selected from the group consisting of PLSCR3A, PLSCR3B, PLSCR3C, PLSCR3D and PLSCR3E.